

INCLUSIVE INNOVATION CONFERENCE 2017

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CLOSING MESSAGE

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CLEARLY, THERE IS A NEED FOR DISCUSSION AMONG STAKEHOLDERS FROM ACADEME, INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT, PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS AND EXPERTS, ALL OF US, THINKING ABOUT THE NEED FOR INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AS THE FOUNDATION FOR OUR COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

INNOVATION CREATES THE PATH TO WHAT IS NEW AND NECESSARY TO BECOME BETTER INTEGRATED INTO A WORLD OF ACCELERATED CHANGES, COMPLEX, COMPETITIVE, OPEN AND GLOBALIZED.

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR INNOVATION MUST THEREFORE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE TRENDS EVOLVING

FROM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, BECAUSE SOONER OR LATER THESE TEND TO IMPOSE THEMSELVES EVERYWHERE AS TRUE DISRUPTIONS.

EXPANDING GLOBALIZATION, DEMOGRAPHIC GROWTH, AND THE GROWING DEMAND FOR GREATER CREATIVITY, PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE WILL RADICALLY AFFECT OUR VIEWS ON COMPETITIVENESS DIRECTED TOWARDS ECONOMIC GROWTH.

INNOVATION MUST BECOME PART OF OUR DAILY THOUGHTS.

WE MUST ASK THESE QUESTIONS:

IS IT JUST SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY? WHAT IS THE ROLE OF CREATIVITY? HOW MUCH DEPEND ON CULTURE, HISTORY OR ATTITUDES OF VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS AND THE POPULATION?

WHAT ARE THE NECESSARY AND IMPORTANT ROLES OF GOVERNMENT, ACADEME, INDUSTRY, THE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY, AND THE ECOSYSTEM OF ENTREPRENEURS AND INVESTORS? CAN THESE ROLES BE DEFINED WITH CLARITY ON THE BOUNDARIES?

DO WE UNDERSTAND GLOBAL MARKETS? DO WE HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS FOR GLOBAL MARKET PRODUCT DEMANDS?

TOUGH QUESTIONS, BUT WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT. A GREAT EXAMPLE OF DEALING WITH IT IS THIS CONFERENCE THE LAST TWO DAYS.

IT WAS INDEED A CONFERENCE OF IDEAS ON INNOVATION AND CRITICAL TECHNOLOGIES THAT WILL CLEARLY AFFECT EVERYONE'S LIVES ACROSS THE WORLD.

ALSO, WE NEEDED SERIOUS, CREATIVE AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION FROM EVERYONE. HOPEFULLY WE WILL LEAVE THE CONFERENCE WITH A MUCH BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS.

OUR COUNTRY, THE PHILIPPINES, MUST BE PART OF THIS INNOVATION PROCESS CONSIDERING ITS POTENTIAL IMPACT TO THE COUNTRY'S NEED FOR A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH.

IN THIS CONTEXT, NO COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC FUTURE IS ASSURED.

THE SUCCESSFUL ONES WILL BE THOSE ABLE TO DERIVE MODELS AND METHODOLOGIES FROM SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, ALWAYS HUMBLE AND REALISTIC ABOUT ITS CURRENT STATUS AND ABLE TO RALLY THE COLLECTIVE STRENGTH OF ITS POPULATION TO DEAL WITH THE TRANSFORMATION THAT INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP BRING.

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP SPAN BOTH THE HUMAN AND SOCIAL, AND OF COURSE, THE SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL AND ECONOMIC-ENTREPRENEURIAL SPACE.

WE MUST START THE LONG PROCESS OF PRODUCING AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS, INNOVATORS, AND ENTREPRENEURS THAT CAN DEFINE, DESIGN, AND MARKET GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.

ONLY THEN WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE IN THE TRUE VALUE AND BENEFITS OF INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP.

SO HOW DO WE START THE PROCESS? HOW DO WE DEFINE OPPORTUNITIES? DO WE HAVE THE ECOSYSTEM BUILT TO SUPPORT THE ENTREPRENEUR? DO WE HAVE THE CULTURE TO DO THIS? TOUGH QUESTIONS?

WE WILL LEAVE THESE QUESTIONS UNANSWERED BUT WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF THE NEXT CONFERENCE.

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION THE LAST TWO DAYS. I WISH YOU THE BEST, AND SEE YOU ALL SOON!